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| NWS Form E-5 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS | HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA: Pocatello, Idaho |
| | REPORT FOR: MONTH: July YEAR: 2012 |
| TO: Hydrologic Operations Division, W/OH2 National Weather Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 | SIGNATURE Corey Loveland Service Hydrologist |
| DATE: August 15, 2012 | |
| When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924). | |



An X in this box indicates that no flooding has occurred for the month within this hydrologic service area.

Overview

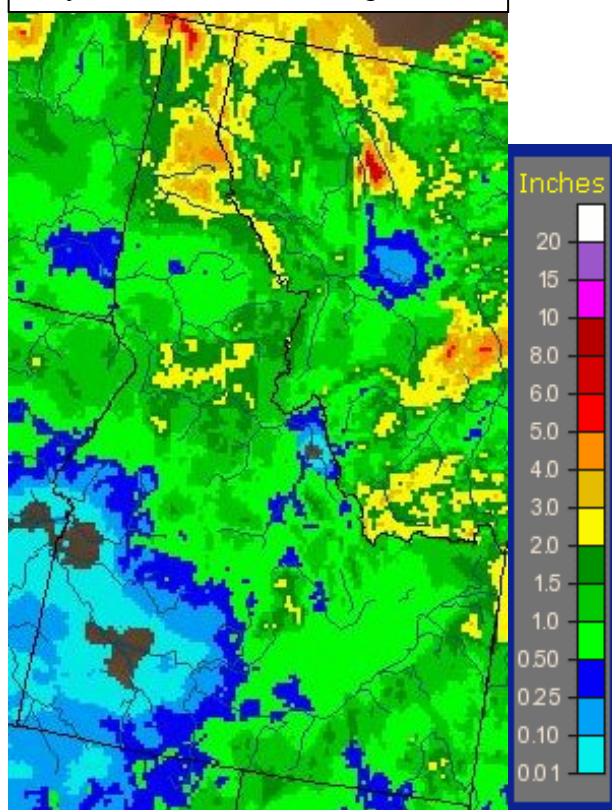
Warmer temperatures and drier soil and vegetation conditions have continued to dominate over the month of July. All the remaining mountain snowpack has melted off within the Hydrologic Service Area leaving only a few small patches in high elevations on northern leeward slopes. A small amount of precipitation fell within the HSA, but primarily within the mountainous ranges south of the Snake River plain and in the lower Bear River basin.

Generally, reservoir storages have dropped significantly the past month. Approximately 1.1 million acre-feet of combined storage in the upper Snake River basin either has been lost through evaporation or discharged through planned releases. Overall, the basin has also decreased 27% in storage capacity (74% to 47%) through the month of July (see dramatic graph below comparing current WY to last year storage). Therefore, reservoir storage across the HSA continues to fall quite rapidly. Monthly average streamflow has improved over the previous month as additional snowmelt and groundwater has reached the lower elevation streams.

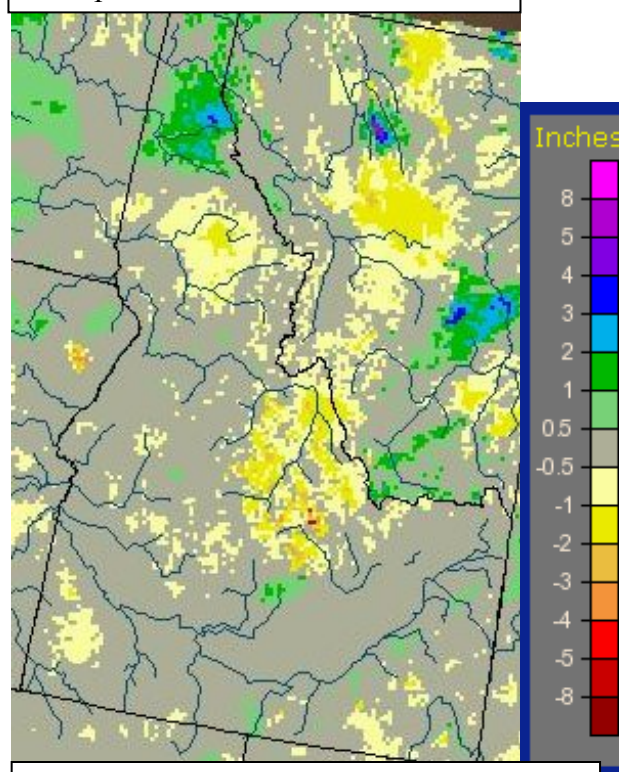
Drought conditions and fires have been the issue as of late and will continue to be in the near future as temperatures are forecast to be above normal (40 to 59%) in the next month with little precipitation in the near future. The current U.S. Drought Monitor has most of eastern Idaho in D0 (Abnormally Dry), but anticipate an expansion of the D1 (moderate) category over much of eastern ID in the next issuance, especially with the current and past fires in the area. The state (IDWR and Governor) has announced six counties in eastern ID as emergency drought declarations, which should also backup the expansion of much of eastern ID into the D1 category. Currently, there are two major fires burning within the HSA (Halstead and Mustang).

Precipitation:

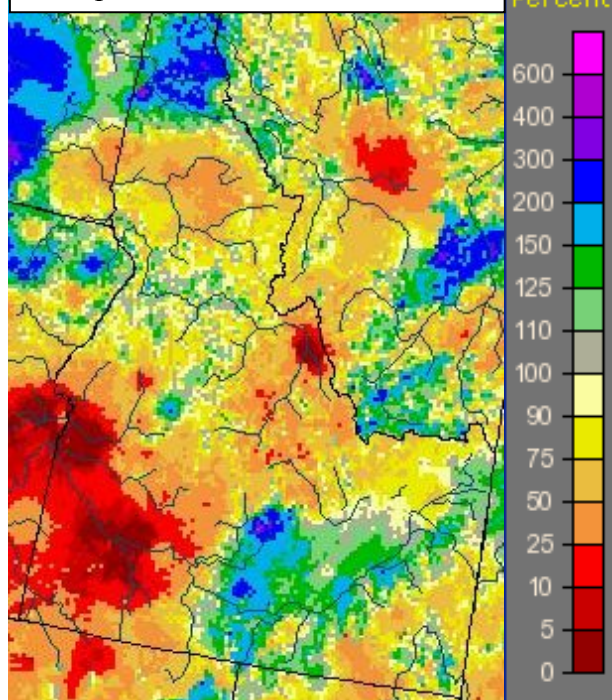
July 2012, Observed Precipitation



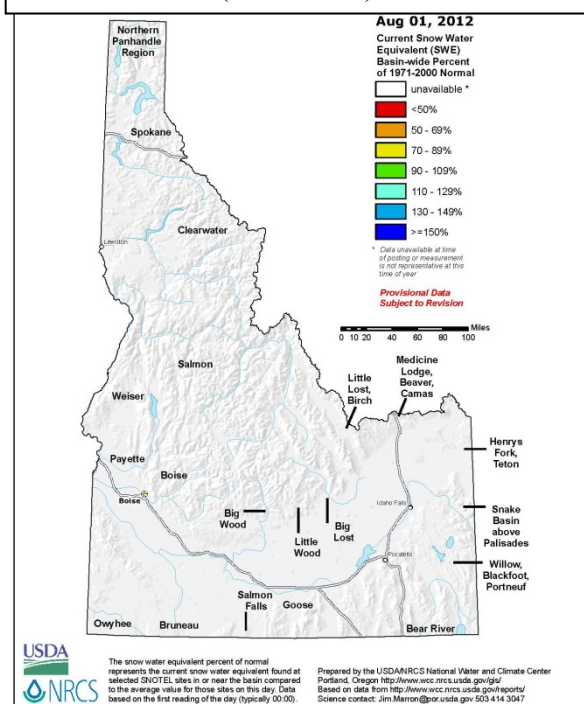
July 2012, Departure from Normal Precipitation

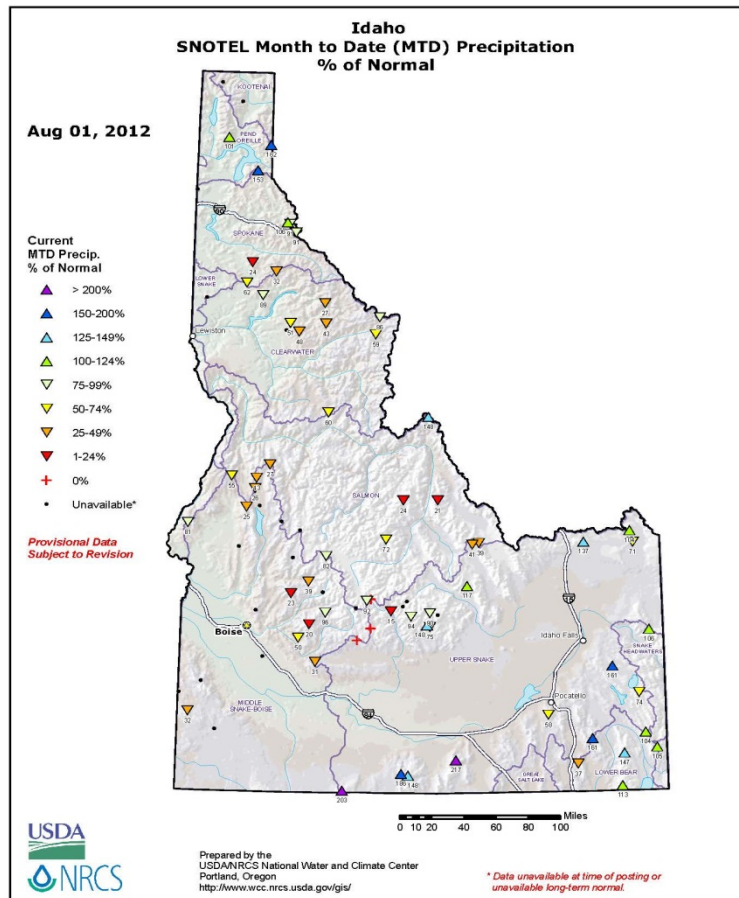


July 2012, Percent of Normal Precipitation

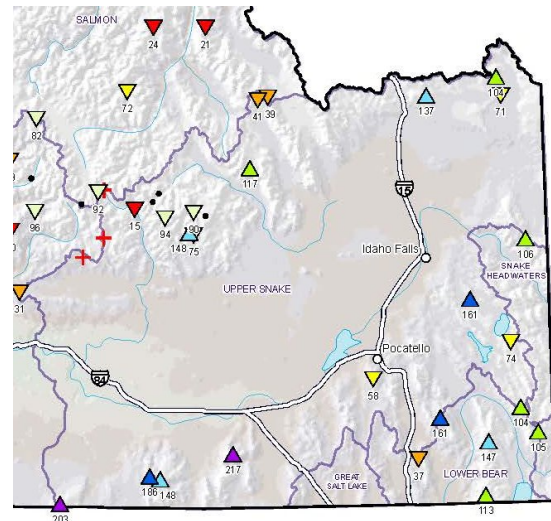


SWE Percent of Normal, end of July 2012 (melted out)





**SNOTEL MTD % of Normal
Precipitation for end of July 2012 (image
to the right is cropped from left image)**



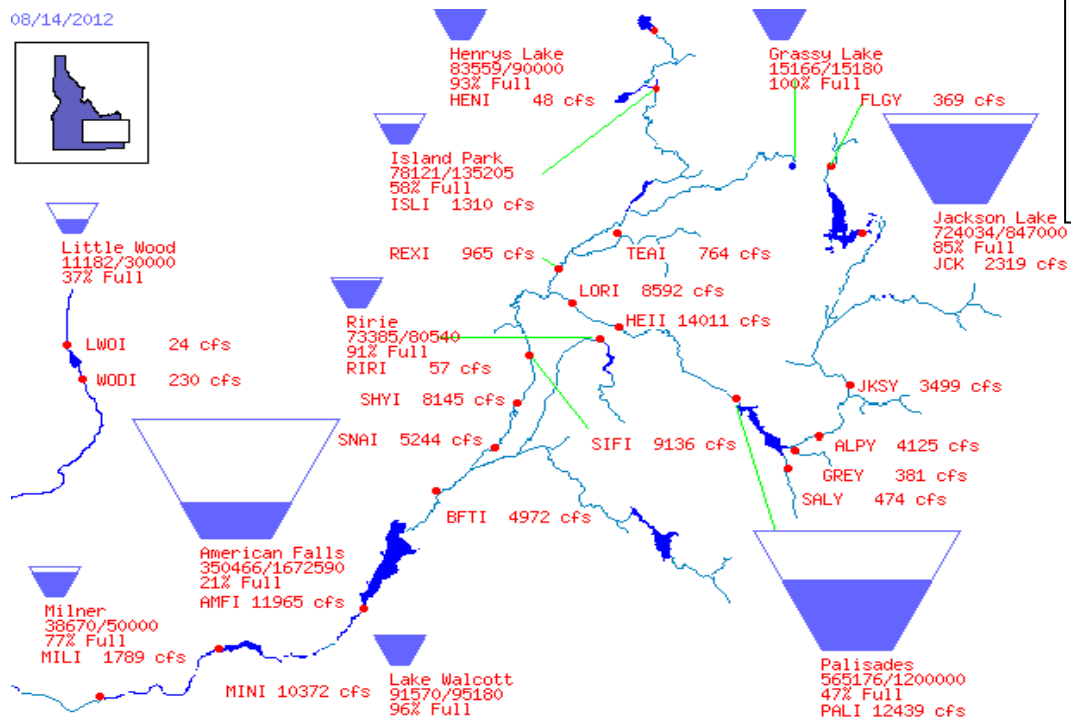
Reservoirs:

| Reservoir | % Capacity June 30 ¹ | % Capacity July 31 ² | Percent Change | % of Average ² | % of Last Year ² |
|----------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Henry's Lake | 98 | 93 | -5 | 102 | 105 |
| Island Park | 93 | 70 | -23 | 94 | 71 |
| Palisades | 96 | 69 | -27 | 84 | 69 |
| Ririe | 97 | 93 | -4 | 112 | 94 |
| Blackfoot | 84 | 75 | -9 | 109 | 0 |
| American Falls | 52 | 29 | -23 | 48 | 30 |
| Bear Lake | 78 | 72 | -6 | 97 | 81 |
| Magic | 93 | 71 | -22 | 115 | 79 |
| Little Wood | 84 | 53 | -31 | 100 | 61 |
| Mackay | 100 | 72 | -28 | 129 | 77 |
| Oakley | 42 | 31 | -11 | 76 | 52 |
| Lake Walcott | 97 ³ | 96 ⁴ | -1 | n/a | n/a |
| Milner | 79 ³ | 77 ⁴ | -2 | n/a | n/a |

Source: (1) NRCS June 30, 2012; (2) NRCS July 31, 2012.

(3) US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) July 5, 2012 (4) BOR August 15, 2012

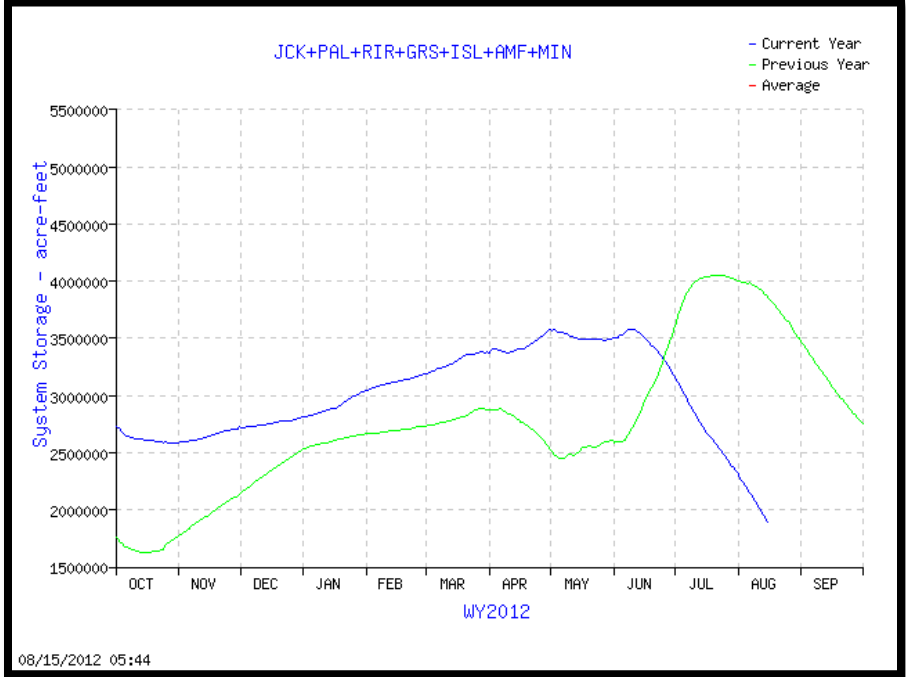
08/14/2012



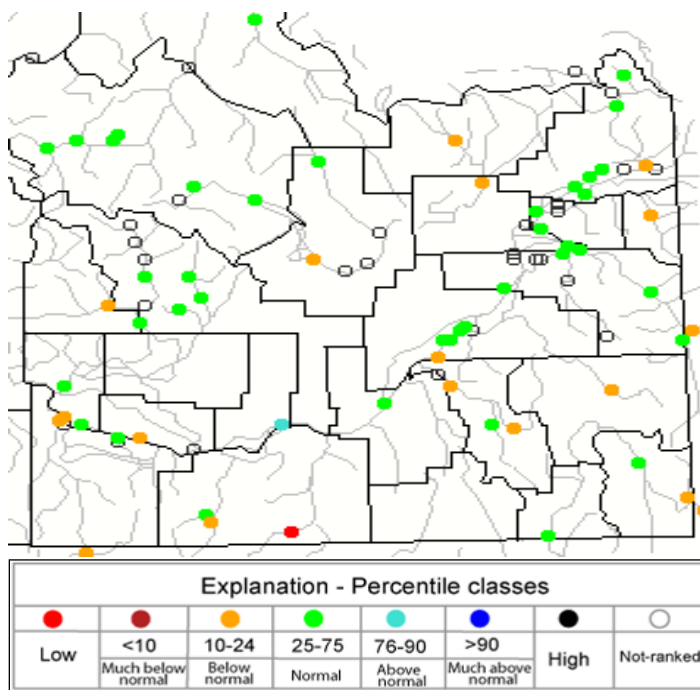
**47% of Capacity
in Upper Snake
River System**
(Jackson Lake, Palisades,
Grassy Lake, Island Park,
Ririe, American Falls &
Lake Walcott)

Upper Snake River:
Total Space Available: 2,147,773 AF
Total Storage Capacity: 4,045,695 AF

**Graph of Upper Snake River
Current Total System Reservoir
Storage**



Streamflow:



Monthly average streamflow compared to historical average streamflow for July 2012.



Drought Information:

U.S. Drought Monitor

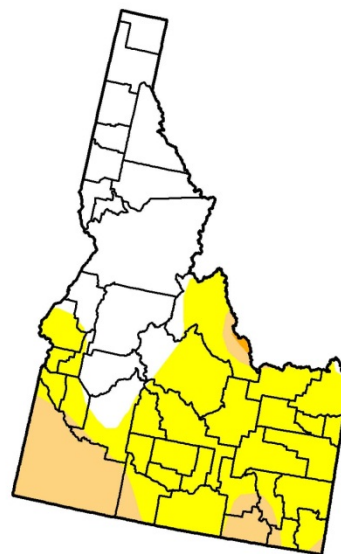
Idaho

August 7, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EST

| | Drought Conditions (Percent Area) | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| | None | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4 |
| Current | 38.72 | 61.28 | 13.91 | 0.18 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Last Week (07/31/2012 map) | 38.72 | 61.28 | 13.91 | 0.18 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 Months Ago (05/08/2012 map) | 87.02 | 12.98 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Start of Calendar Year (12/27/2011 map) | 48.90 | 51.10 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Start of Water Year (09/27/2011 map) | 86.56 | 13.44 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| One Year Ago (08/02/2011 map) | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Intensity:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| D0 Abnormally Dry | D3 Drought - Extreme |
| D1 Drought - Moderate | D4 Drought - Exceptional |
| D2 Drought - Severe | |



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



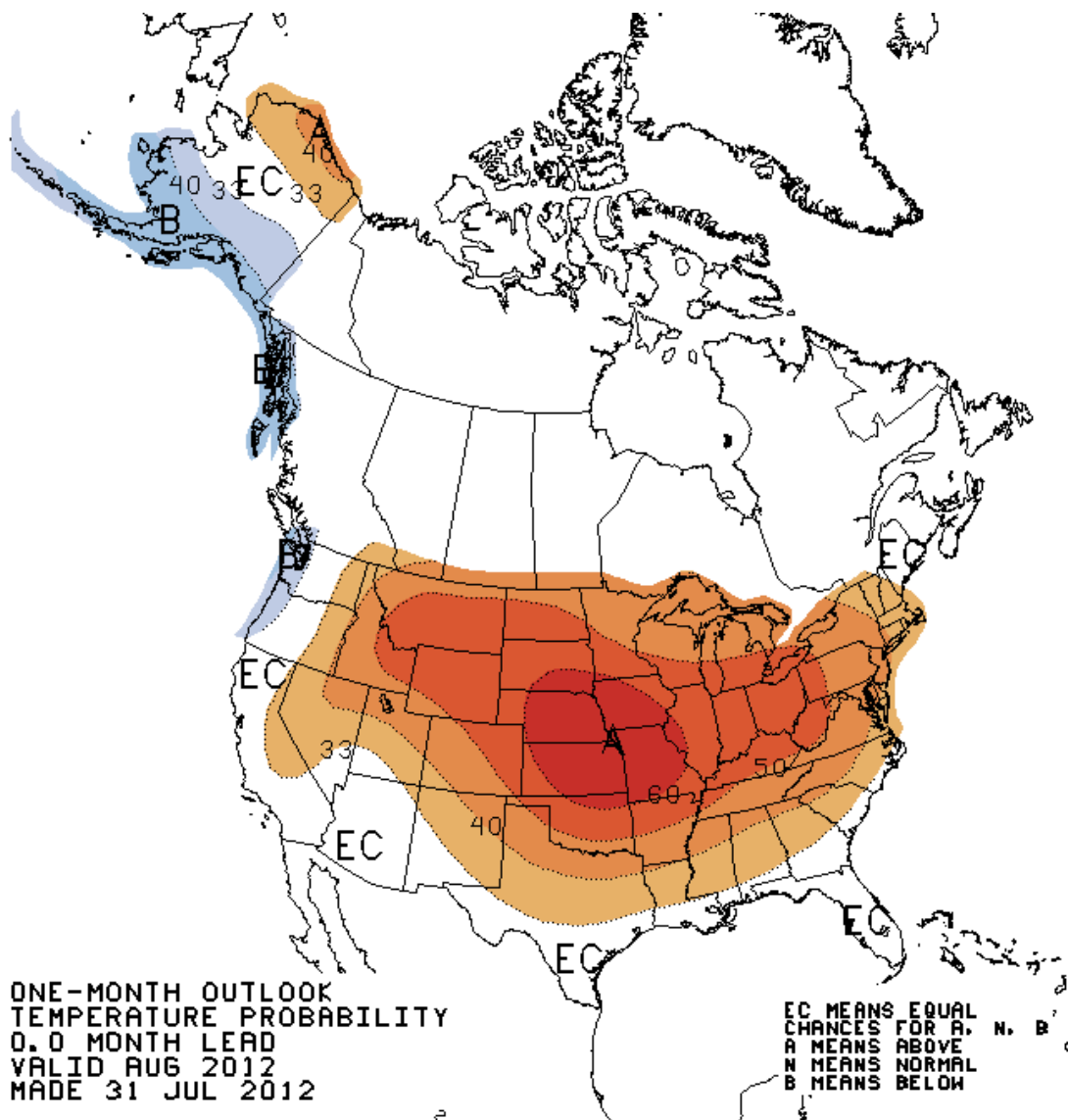
Released Thursday, August 9, 2012
Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

Idaho Department of Water Resources Drought Emergency Declarations as of 8/15/12:

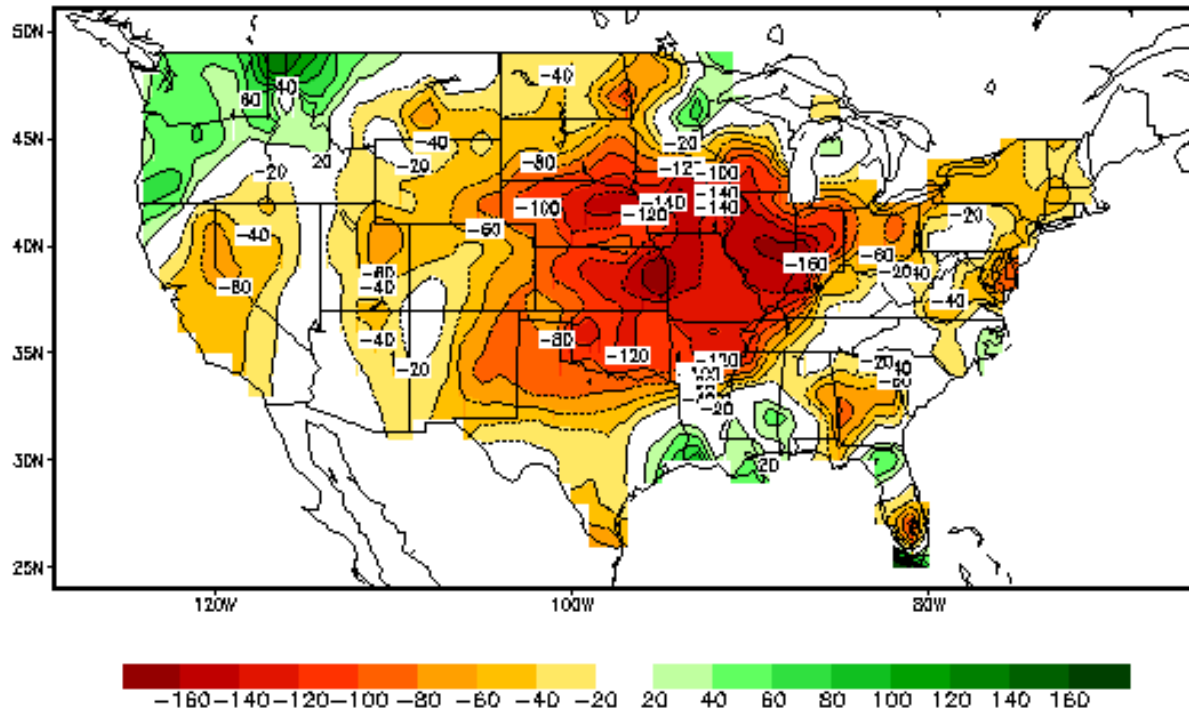
County / Area:

Date Declared:

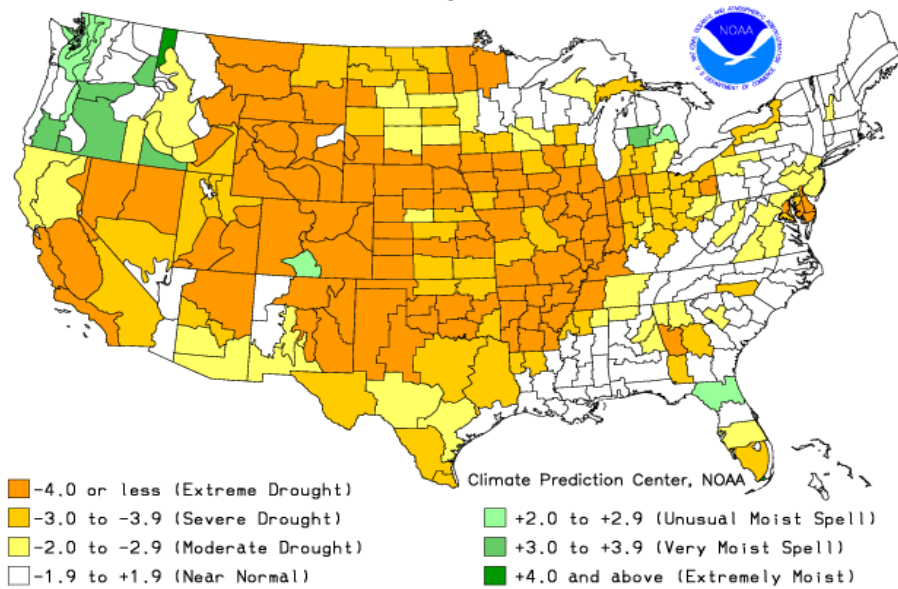
- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| • Bannock County | August 11, 2012 |
| • Teton County | July 20, 2012 |
| • Bear Lake County | July 16, 2012 |
| • Blaine County | July 16, 2012 |
| • Oneida County | July 16, 2012 |
| • Clark County | May 16, 2012 |



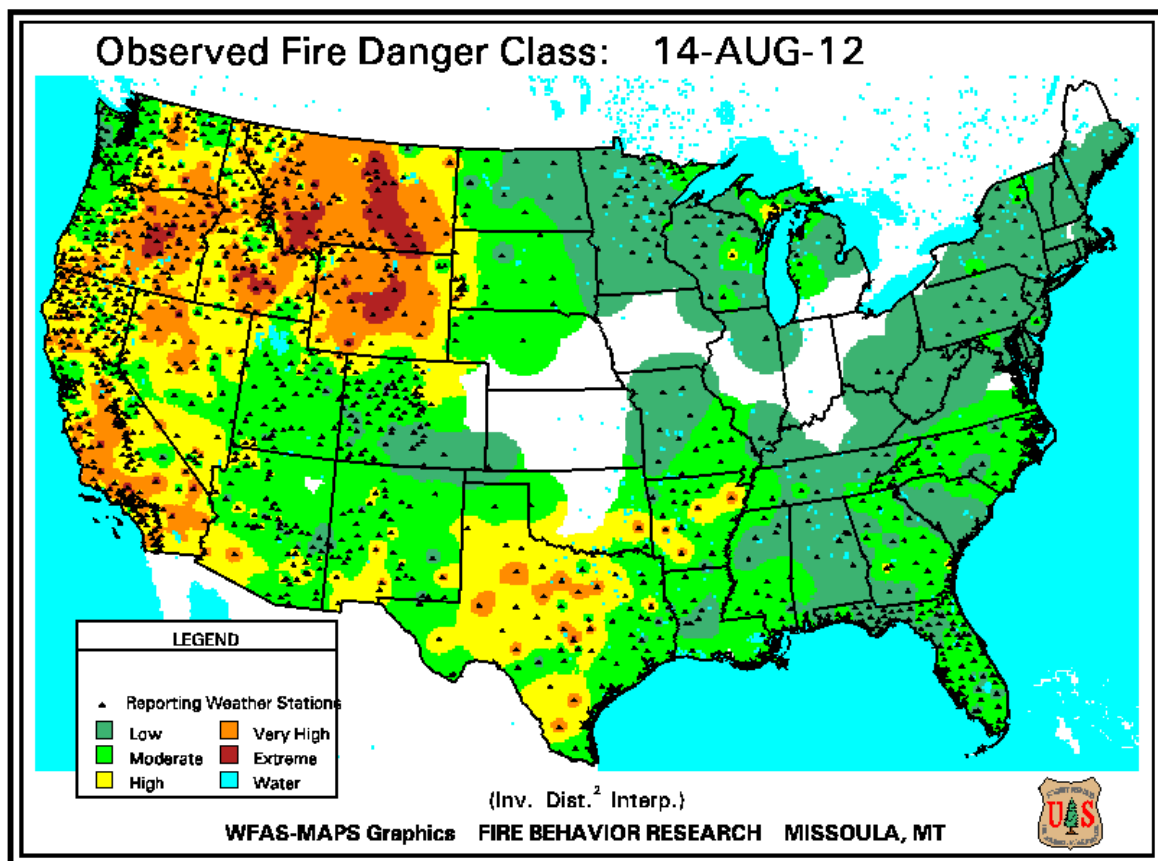
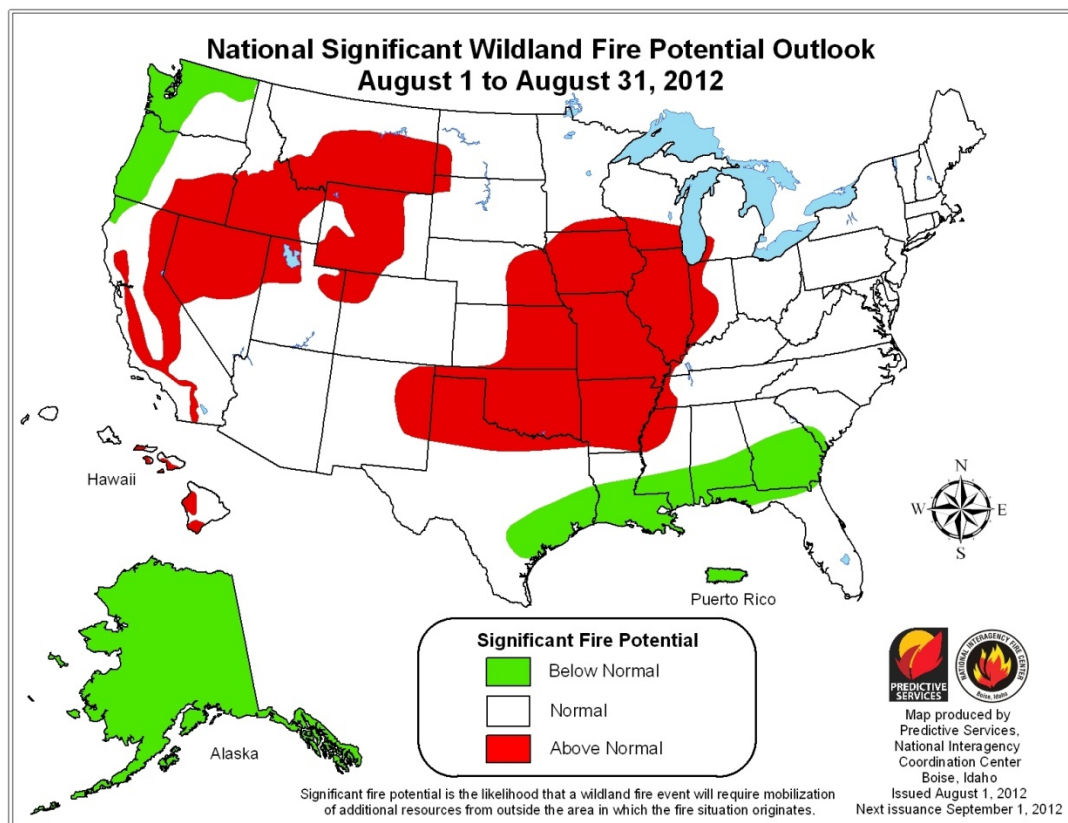
Soil Moisture Anomaly (mm) Last day of JUL, 2012



Drought Severity Index by Division Weekly Value for Period Ending AUG 11, 2012 Long Term Palmer



Fire Information:



Current Fires in HSA as of 8/15/12:

Gun Range, Seven miles west of Idaho Falls, ID. Brush and grass. Running fire.
Mustang, Salmon-Challis NF (4 fires). Twenty-eight miles west of North Fork, ID. Timber.
Halstead, Salmon-Challis NF. Eighteen miles northwest of Stanley, ID. Timber.

cc:

Mike Schaffner, Western Region HCSD
Harold Opitz, Hydrologist-in-Charge, Northwest River Forecast Center
Michelle Stokes, Hydrologist-in-Charge, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Hydrometeorological Information Center
Rick Dittmann, Meteorologist-in-Charge, Pocatello, Idaho
Troy Lindquist, Senior Service Hydrologist, Boise, Idaho
Brad Gillies, Hydrologist, Northwest River Forecast Center
Taylor Dixon, Hydrologist, Northwest River Forecast Center
Brent Bernard, Hydrologist, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center